

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 DODE-00 PM-04 /020 W

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R 191548Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4985

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, ETRN, NI

SUBJECT: SHIPPING MILITARY VEHICLES FROM U.S.

REF: STATE 113125

1. WELL-PLACED BUT NOT NECESSARILY COMPLETELY OBJECTIVE SOURCE HAS FOLLOWING COMMENTS: PROBLEM IS LARGELY FORD'S AND FARRELL'S, MAY ALSO AFFECT AMERICAN MOTORS. FORD HAS PROBLEM IN THAT IT APPARENTLY DID NOT RPT NOT THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE SHIPPING PROBLEM AND IS NOW SEARCHING FOR SHIPPING IN FACE OF ACTIVE MARKET SPECULATION IN RO-ROS IN ANTICIPATION THIS LARGE CONSIGNMENT. FORD UNSUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT PERSUADE MOD PERMIT SHIPMENT VIA OTHER TYPES CARRIERS. MOD DID SPECIFY RO-ROS IN CONTRACT BUT 500 FOOT STIPULATION IS PART OF MINUTES, NOT RPT NOT CONTACT, AND THUS IS PROBABLY NOT LEGALLY REQUIRED.

2. MOD STIPULATED 500-FOOT BECAUSE LARGER RO-ROS WOULD REQUIRE TWO BERTHS AND THUS AGGRAVATE LAGOS PORT CONGESTION. MACK HAS ALREADY MADE SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS AND USE BERTH OTHER THAN NINE. BELIEVE ALL COMPANIES AGREED TO DELIVER VEHICLES AFFIX CIF PRICE WHICH ENCOURAGES USE OF CHEAPEST RO-ROS AVAILABLE. IF FARRELL IS EXPENSIVE, COMPANIES PROBABLY WOULD PREFER OTHER CARRIERS.

3. UNABLE OBTAIN VIEWS FROM FARRELL'S KENNERLY BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM LAGOS SEVERAL WEEKS. AS THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGEABLE SPOKESMAN AT FARRELL'S LAGOS OFFICE, DEPARTMENT MY WISH SUGGEST TO FARRELL IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO GET REP HERE TO PROTECT FIRM'S INTERESTS.

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4. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION ON BRIBERY SUSPICION  
PARA FOUR REFTEL BUT TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS QUOTED TRANSPORT  
COMMISSIONER MGORO AS STATING IN SPEECH THAT THERE PERSISTENT  
ALLEGATIONS THAT SOME PORT AUTHORITY OFFICIALS DEMAND 5,000-  
10,000 NAIRA FROM SHIP OWNERS TO ASSURE BERTHS. COMMISSIONER  
SAID THAT IN PAST SOME ALLEGATIONS OF THIS TYPE WERE FOUND TO BE  
TRUE.

5. IF, AS SOURCE PARA ONE STATES, REQUIREMENT FOR 500-FOOT  
RO-ROS NOT RPT NOT LEGALLY BINDING, FARRELL MIGHT SENT REP TO  
PORT AUTHORITY AND MOD WITH CASE FOR LARGER RO-ROS. AIM WOULD  
BE TO SHOW THAT VEHICLES CAN BE DELIVERED AS FAST OR FASTER  
THAN OTHER METHODS WITHOUT AGGRAVATING PORT CONGESTION.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: SUGGEST SHIPPING SITUATION BE DISCUSSED  
WITH WALTER G. CURTIS, FORD EXPORT CORPS., WIXOM, MICHIGAN,  
TELEPHONE 313 349-2400, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO LEGAL  
NATURE 500-FOOT RO-RO STIPULATION, THEN WITH FARRELL WITH VIEW  
ASCERTAINING WHAT, IF ANYTHING, EMBASSY CAN DO. WHY DID FARRELL  
APPROACH DEPARTMENT IF IT DOES NOT WICH USG ACTION AT THIS TIME?  
CROSBY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, GROUND VEHICLES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAY 1976  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**To:** STATE  
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